

From: [Hausman, Phillip](#)
To: ["c.foley919@gmail.com"](mailto:c.foley919@gmail.com)
Cc: [Hogle, Paul](#); [public.records](#)
Subject: Your Public Records Request
Date: Monday, July 11, 2016 4:49:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Ms. Foley,

Thank you for your public records request. This email is to acknowledge the Department of Health and Human Services has received your request for:

As a maternal child administrator for over two decades in North Carolina, my home state, I am petitioning the State Healthcare Coordinating Council to propose an alternate program for special needs group in high risk pregnancies and neonates.

I'd like to have a breakdown of costs that Medicaid pays for inpatient hospitalization for these two groups. If a hospital is not for profit, shouldn't their costs be transparent? These costs to the hospital system doesn't include the physician's bill.

High risk pregnancies ordered to bedrest in the hospitalization for the duration of their pregnancy. Some of the diagnoses for this could be:

Gestational Diabetes, Hypertension, Placenta Previa, history of spontaneous abortions.

Neonatal Intensive Care Unit:

low birth weight due to pre-maturity, jaundice, respiratory syndrome virus, neonatal abstinence syndrome, and pre-maturity.

We'd like to assist the hospitals as a resource to discharge thus lowering the costs to out taxpayers in the Medicaid system.

We are in the process of identifying what, if any, public records are responsive to your request, the location of those records, and assessing the resources required to fulfill your request. Please note that if there will be a cost to you associated with fulfilling your request, we will contact you before assessing any charges. For additional information, the current cost schedule is available at http://www.ncdhhs.gov/control/pub_recs_charge.pdf.

I'm copying my Public Records colleague, Paul Hogle, as well as our service account on this email in the event you need immediate assistance and I'm unavailable. Otherwise, please consider me your primary contact for this request.

Your request identification number is 2016-07-11-02. Please refer to this number when inquiring about the status of your request.

NC DHHS is committed to responding to your request as promptly as possible. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, concerns, or wish to further tailor your request.

Again, thank you for your public records request to NC DHHS.

Sincerely,

Phil Hausman

Legal Communications
Office of Communications, Public Records
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

919-855-4960 office
Phillip.Hausman@dhhs.nc.gov

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2001 Mail Service Center
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From: [Niehaus, Virginia](#)
To: [c Foley](#)
Cc: [Pfau, Sarah E](#); [Hogle, Paul](#)
Subject: RE: Public Records Request 7-11
Date: Thursday, July 28, 2016 9:24:01 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[Public Records Request #4249.xlsx](#)

Ms. Foley,

Attached please find a data report responsive to your public records request.

This data is provided with the following comments:

- We had initially excluded dual eligibles, given that Medicare pays all or most of the bill and given that including them would artificially understate the average per capita cost. However, not including them would somewhat understate the total amount that Medicaid paid. So our solution was to include both dual and non-dual eligibles, but to report and count them separately. So, on each tab the duals are given first, in fiscal year and hospital order, then below these come the non-duals.

Note that, while it's generally thought that any Medicare-eligible recipient would be 65 or older, Medicare does cover some categories of recipients below 65 years of age as well (among the disabled, for example).

- The neonate hospitalizations include *all* NICU level 3 & level 4 and PICU inpatient stays in the first four weeks of life whether these were the initial hospital stays immediately upon birth or a subsequent readmission.
- In all cases, the recipient count is a count of unique recipients. So if someone was, say, admitted twice, that person would count only as a single recipient for that fiscal year.
- Medicaid covers about 55% of the births in North Carolina each year, about 65,000 to 70,000 births per year.
- The hospital's state was added for to help distinguish between in-state and out-of-state hospitals.

This request is now considered closed. Please let me know if you have any further questions or concerns about this request.

Sincerely,

Virginia R. Niehaus, JD, MPH

Policy Analyst

Division of Medical Assistance, Policy and Regulatory Affairs
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

(919) 855-4111 office

(919) 733-6608 fax

virginia.niehaus@dhhs.nc.gov

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From: Niehaus, Virginia

Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2016 4:49 PM

To: 'c Foley' <c.foley919@gmail.com>

Cc: Sarah E Pfau (Sarah.Pfau@dhhs.nc.gov) <Sarah.Pfau@dhhs.nc.gov>; Hogle, Paul <Paul.Hogle@dhhs.nc.gov>

Subject: RE: Public Records Request 7-11

Ms. Foley,

Okay, sounds good. I will be in touch by Thursday regarding the other data request.

Thanks,

Virginia R. Niehaus, JD, MPH

Policy Analyst

Division of Medical Assistance, Policy and Regulatory Affairs

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

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From: c Foley [<mailto:c.foley919@gmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2016 4:46 PM
To: Niehaus, Virginia <virginia.niehaus@dhhs.nc.gov>
Subject: Re: Public Records Request 7-11

Dear Virginia,

It doesn't appear that it would be helpful as this time is now down to 48 hours of submission.

We can run with the data that your group will be sending.

Thanks
Cynthia Foley

On Tue, Jul 26, 2016 at 4:20 PM, Niehaus, Virginia <virginia.niehaus@dhhs.nc.gov> wrote:

Ms. Foley,

DMA can log and process this new request for information regarding the average newborn cost in Wake County; however, it would be considered a separate request, and the information would not be available this week. Please let me know if you would like me to proceed with processing this separate request.

Sincerely,

Virginia R. Niehaus, JD, MPH
Policy Analyst
Division of Medical Assistance, Policy and Regulatory Affairs
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

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From: c Foley [<mailto:c.foley919@gmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2016 3:50 PM

To: Niehaus, Virginia <virginia.niehaus@dhhs.nc.gov>

Subject: Re: Public Records Request 7-11

Dear Virginia:

That is excellent news. We are currently wondering what a typical Medicaid newborn cost is in Wake County. I saw around \$ 3200 but was not sure. Please advise.

Thanks so much,
Cynthia Foley

On Tue, Jul 26, 2016 at 11:54 AM, Niehaus, Virginia <virginia.niehaus@dhhs.nc.gov> wrote:

Ms. Foley,

Thank you for your call and email. I checked with DMA's Business Information Office. They are currently working on your data request. They plan to have the request completed by Thursday morning at the latest. I will send the data report to you as soon as I have it. Please call or email if you have any other questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Virginia R. Niehaus, JD, MPH

Policy Analyst

Division of Medical Assistance, Policy and Regulatory Affairs

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

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From: c Foley [mailto:c.foley919@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2016 11:39 AM

To: Niehaus, Virginia <virginia.niehaus@dhhs.nc.gov>

Subject: Re: Public Records Request 7-11

Dear Virginia:

This is to inform your staff that our agency is formerly petitioning the State Healthcare Coordinating Council for a certificate of need for our agency aiming at reducing costs associated with an undeserved group of maternal child medicine by Thursday, July 28th, 2016 5pm.

Should your data that has been collected include the most current years, we would like to utilize this information for this effort.

Sharon Douglas, NP, RN, IBCLC, and I will be working on this data this afternoon, and we sincerely want to thank your group from our organization for the hard work that has been put into this type of gathering.

Best Regards,
Cynthia Foley
[910-286-4988](tel:910-286-4988)
Administrator

On Wed, Jul 13, 2016 at 3:33 PM, Niehaus, Virginia <virginia.niehaus@dhhs.nc.gov> wrote:

Thank you. I will look for your response.

Sincerely,

Virginia R. Niehaus, JD, MPH
Policy Analyst
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From: c Foley [mailto:c.foley919@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 13, 2016 11:50 AM
To: Niehaus, Virginia <virginia.niehaus@dhhs.nc.gov>
Subject: Re: Public Records Request 7-11

Dear Virginia:

Thank you for your response. I'm at CFVMC providing an in service and will be responding later this afternoon.

Cynthia Foley

On Tue, Jul 12, 2016 at 6:54 PM, Niehaus, Virginia <virginia.niehaus@dhhs.nc.gov> wrote:

Ms. Foley,

Thank you for your inquiry. To complete your data request, I need the following clarifying information:

- For what years would you like the data? SFY 2016? Or multiple years?
- Would you like the cost data to reflect the claims amounts *billed* to Medicaid or the claims amounts *paid* by Medicaid?
- Would you like to receive the aggregate amount paid (for the entire year) for each of the two groups or the average per capita cost in each of the two groups?
- Would you like the aggregate amount paid for *all claims* for inpatient hospitalization services or should this information be subdivided in some way, such as by provider/hospital?

Once I have this additional information, I will work with the appropriate DMA staff to identify public records responsive to your request. If there will be a cost associated with fulfilling the request, we will contact you before assessing any charges. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the fulfillment of this request, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Virginia R. Niehaus, JD, MPH
Policy Analyst
Division of Medical Assistance, Policy and Regulatory Affairs
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From: Hausman, Phillip
Sent: Tuesday, July 12, 2016 10:25 AM
To: Niehaus, Virginia <virginia.niehaus@dhhs.nc.gov>; Pfau, Sarah E <Sarah.Pfau@dhhs.nc.gov>
Cc: Hogle, Paul <Paul.Hogle@dhhs.nc.gov>
Subject: RE: Public Records Request 7-11

Cynthia G. Foley
c.foley919@gmail.com

Mothers Helpers Home Healthcare
www.doulanc.com

From: Hausman, Phillip
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2016 4:52 PM
To: Niehaus, Virginia <virginia.niehaus@dhhs.nc.gov>
Cc: Pfau, Sarah E <Sarah.Pfau@dhhs.nc.gov>
Subject: Public Records Request 7-11

Hi all,

Got a new request in today:

As a maternal child administrator for over two decades in North Carolina, my home state, I am petitioning the State Healthcare Coordinating Council to propose an alternate program for special needs group in high risk pregnancies and neonates.

I'd like to have a breakdown of costs that Medicaid pays for inpatient hospitalization for these two groups. If a hospital is not for profit, shouldn't their costs be transparent? These costs to the hospital system doesn't include the physician's bill.

High risk pregnancies ordered to bedrest in the hospitalization for the duration of their pregnancy. Some of the diagnoses for this could be:
Gestational Diabetes, Hypertension, Placenta Previa, history of spontaneous abortions.

Neonatal Intensive Care Unit:
low birth weight due to pre-maturity, jaundice, respiratory syndrome virus, neonatal abstinence syndrome, and pre-maturity.

We'd like to assist the hospitals as a resource to discharge thus lowering the costs to out taxpayers in the Medicaid system.

If I can provide any additional information, please let me know.

Regards,

Phil Hausman

Legal Communications

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Cynthia G. Foley

Administrator

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